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CAPETOWN COMMENTS.

"THE IMMIGRATION SCARE."

THE LEAGUE OF GENTILES.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

Under the heading of "The Jewish Immigration 'Scare'," the weekly "Cape" contains the following leaderette:—

"For some reason or other (possibly due to that preposterous League of Gentiles in Johannesburg) an anti-Semitic feeling appears to be growing in South Africa. We cannot help thinking that the sensitiveness of the Jews themselves is partly responsible for this feeling. When any newspaper in South Africa, whether it is the "Cape Times" or the Johannesburg "Star" or the "Burger," protests against a further increase of immigration from Eastern Europe the Jewish Press is up in arms to protest against these insults to the Jews! But why does the Jewish Press assume that all those whose patronymics end in 'vitch' or 'owski' are Jews? The fact is that the Jewish Press often mixes up the Jew by race with the Jew by religion until the bewildered Christian doesn't know where he is in relation to the Oriental immigrant. They claim Sir Lionel Phillips as a Jew, but he is a stalwart of the Church of England. And only the other day a Jewish journal in Johannesburg hailed Madame Pavlova as an ornament of the Jewish race—the truth being that she was born and reared a member of the Greek Orthodox Catholic Church. The Editor of the "Zionist Record" of Johannesburg has sent us a copy of an article in the latest issue of his journal about the "Lithuanian Immigration" bogey. Frankly we are not impressed by it. It seems to miss the real point; which is that foreign immigration from Eastern Europe is undesirable in South Africa, where two Western nations—the English and the Dutch—are endeavouring to build up a civilisation which shall reproduce the culture and reflect the history of their ancestry and tradition. The "Cape" yields to none in its appreciation of the real Jewish population in South Africa which has enriched the State by its devotion to its ideals and by its wonderful sense of the sanctity and beauty of family life. But it is ridiculous for the Jewish or Zionist Press in South Africa to accuse the newspapers of anti-Semitism because they object to the invasion of this Dominion by the "vitches" and the "owskys" from Eastern Europe. They do not think of them as Jews at all—any more than they would think of the Italian or the Greek immigrant as a Christian or a Catholic."

In the same issue in the column headed "The 'Cape' would like to know" appears the following:

"If it is really a fact that Mr. Marwick, M.L.A. for Illovo, Natal, is a member of the Johannesburg League of Gentiles, whose avowed purpose is to give South African Jews as uncomfortable a time as possible, in civil, social and commercial life; and why, if the allegation (made in Parliament) is untrue, Mr. Marwick has not taken an opportunity to deny the impeachment?"

If, moreover, it is not grossly and mediaevally

unjust to bracket all Jews under a religious label and to include South African Jews, who have thrown in their lot with South Africa and who take pride in their Union citizenship, with those undesirable immigrants from Russia and Eastern Europe (many of whom are not Jews at all) who come to this country as official or unofficial agents for Moscow and the Soviets."

The manner in which Mr. Marwick attacks the Jewish community in the House on every possible occasion is an outstanding feature of Parliamentary life, and one can quite understand his associating himself with any organisation that has for its objects the persecution of Jewry. Although, as the "Cape" points out, Mr. Marwick has not denied his association with the "League of Gentiles," it is fairly obvious that he is either actively connected therewith or at least that he is in full accord with their anti-Semitic propaganda, for the likes of Mr. Marwick will go to any lengths to further their unreasoned prejudice against the Jews.

Now that the demolition of the Old Supreme Court buildings is nearing completion, the question of the erection of the Arch at the entrance to Government Avenue will have to be gone into. The late Mr. H. Liberman, in his will, bequeathed a certain sum of money for this purpose, and the "Cape" reasonably enquires what individual or body is to be responsible for the work in connection with the erection of this Arch. The late Mr. Liberman's generosity will not only help considerably in the scheme of beautifying the "Mother City" of which he was chief citizen for a period of three years, but will also perpetuate the memory of one—a Jew—who had the interests of Capetown so much at heart. It behoves the "powers that be" to indicate what steps are being taken to put Mr. Liberman's wishes into effect.

Although the new Guild Rooms in Plein Street have not yet been officially opened, they were available for members on Thursday evening when there was a large assembly of Guildites, who spent a very pleasant evening. A dance has been arranged for Wednesday, 14th instant, and it is anticipated that there will be a large attendance of members with their friends. The new premises will be officially opened on May 1st, and it is hoped that the Rev. A. P. Bender will be able to perform this ceremony.

On Thursday the dramatic section of the Maccabean Association presented a one-act play entitled "The Faith of the Fathers" before a large assembly of members and friends. The following took part: Misses F. Gron, D. Winnett, and Messrs. N. N. Schaffer and T. Snitcher. Following the play, Mr. I. Zieff submitted violin solos, Mr. Shraga and Miss Gron sang; Miss H. Gesundheit recited, and humorous papers were given by Messrs. C. Gordon and H. M. Block. Two competitions of jumbled names of Jewish historical characters completed an enjoyable evening.

A very enjoyable evening was spent at Cogills Hotel, Wynberg, on Thursday, when the opening function of the Wynberg Jewish Social Club was held. The Chairman, in welcoming those present, hoped they would resume their activities and support the club in every possible way. Dr. Resnekov also spoke and urged the members to give their support to the Committee and to help them in their work. Dancing was indulged in and refreshments served.